

Appl. No. 10/691,216
Amdt. dated May 22, 2007
Reply to Office Action of February 15, 2007

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 3, 7, and 9-18 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A system for controlling access to or distribution of software and/or data among a plurality of client nodes, the system comprising:

means for storing software and/or data that is to be made available to predetermined client nodes, each client node being a data processing device for which access to specified software or data may be allowed, and a list of identifiers, each of which uniquely identifies one of the ~~pre-determined~~ predetermined nodes, the presence of each identifier on the list authorizing the predetermined client node associated with the identifier to be allowed access to the software and/or data; and

a client application at each client node that is configured to identify whether the unique identifier for that node is included on the list and allow access to the software and/or data by the client node at which the client application resides only if it is the identifier is included on the list.
2. (original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the means for storing the software and/or data and unique client identifiers is portable.
3. (currently amended) A system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the means for storing the software and/or data and unique client identifiers comprises a ~~CD~~ compact disc.

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4. (original) A system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the means for storing the software and/or data and unique client identifiers comprises a floppy disc.

5. (original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the client nodes are part of a communications network.

6. (original) A system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the means for storing is provided in a shared information storage area that can be remotely accessed by at least some or all of the client nodes.

7. (currently amended) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the client application is operable to generate a unique identifier for ~~its host node~~ the client node on which the client application resides and compare this with the unique identifiers on the authorized list, thereby to identify whether the unique identifier for that node is on the list.

8. (original) A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the client application uses node specific data to generate the unique identifier.

9. (currently amended) A method for controlling access to or distribution of software and/or data among a plurality of client nodes, the method comprising:

storing in association with the software and/or data, a list of unique identifiers, each of which uniquely identifies one of the ~~pre-determined~~ predetermined nodes authorized to be allowed access to the software and/or data;

identifying whether a unique identifier for a particular node is included on the list; and
controlling the operation of each node so that the node examines the list and verifies that the unique identifier for the node appears on the list, the node loading or installing or using the

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software and/or data ~~at that particular node~~ only if its the unique identifier for the node ~~is~~ appears on the list.

10. (currently amended) A ~~computer program, preferably on a data carrier or computer-readable medium, the computer program having code or instructions~~ program storage device, readable by a machine, having encoded thereon instructions executable by the machine for:

identifying a unique identifier associated with ~~its host terminal~~ the machine executing the instructions;

reading a list of unique identifiers associated with specified software and/or data, each unique identifier being uniquely associated with one of a plurality of ~~client nodes or terminals~~ machines; and

controlling the operation of a client node comprising the machine executing the instructions so that the machine ~~allowing access to~~ accesses the software and/or data only if the unique identifier for the ~~host client node or terminal~~ is appears on the list of unique identifiers.

11. (currently amended) A ~~computer program~~ program storage device as claimed in claim 10, ~~further having code or~~ wherein the instructions encoded thereon include instructions for generating a unique identifier for ~~its host node~~ a client node comprising the machine executing the instructions and comparing this with the unique identifiers on the authorized list, thereby to identify whether the unique identifier for that node is on the list.

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12. (currently amended) A ~~computer program~~ program storage device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the instructions encoded thereon include instructions for generating the unique identifier using node specific data ~~is used to generate the unique identifier.~~

13. (currently amended) A data processing device serving as a client node or terminal comprising:

means for reading a list of unique identifiers associated with software and/or data, each unique identifier being uniquely associated with one of a plurality of client nodes or terminals; and

means for controlling the operation of the data processing device so that the data processing device loads or installs or uses for loading or installing or using the software and/or data only if its own unique identifier is on the list of unique identifiers.

14. (currently amended) A ~~client node or terminal~~ data processing device as claimed in claim 13, further comprising:

means for generating a unique identifier for the node implemented by the data processing device ~~its host node~~ and comparing this with the unique identifiers on the authorized list, thereby to identify whether the unique identifier for that node is on the list.

15. (currently amended) A ~~client node or terminal~~ data processing device as claimed in claim 14, wherein node specific data is used to generate the unique identifier.

16. (currently amended) A self-service terminal ~~or automated teller machine~~ comprising:

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means for reading a list of unique identifiers associated with software and/or data, each unique identifier being uniquely associated with one of a plurality of self-service terminals ~~or automated teller machines~~; and

means for controlling the operation of the self-service terminal so that the self-service terminal for loading or installing or using loads or installs or uses the software and/or data only if ~~its own~~ a unique identifier associated with the self-service terminal appears is on the list of unique identifiers.

17. (currently amended) A self-service terminal ~~or automated teller machine~~ as claimed in claim 16. further comprising:

means for generating a unique identifier for ~~its host node~~ the self-service terminal and comparing this with the unique identifiers on the authorized list, thereby to identify whether the unique identifier for the self-service terminal appears ~~that node is~~ on the list.

18. (currently amended) A self-service terminal ~~or automated teller machine~~ as claimed in claim 17, wherein node specific data is used to generate the unique identifier.